Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 EUR-12 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 CIEP-00 IOE-00 /070 W

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P R 281905Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1095
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, PORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO: NORTH KOREAN ACTIVITIES AT UNESCO

REF: PARIS 4412

- 1. MARCH 25 US DELOFF CONVERSATION WITH JAPANESE PERMREP TO UNESCO, MINISTER CHIYUKI HIRAOKA, REVEALED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT RECENT DRK ACTIVITIES AT UNESCO.
- 2. SECRETARIAT SOURCES TOLD HIRAOKA THAT THE DRK'S ORIGINAL REQUEST FOR SPACE IN UNESCO'S NEW OFFICE BUILDING TO ACCOMMODATE THIRTY EMPLOYEES, AND LATER SCALED DOWN TO TWENTY-ONE, RECENTLY HAS BEEN FURTHER PARED TO EIGHT. (COMMENT: THIS IS STILL AN EXCESSIVE NUMBER FOR CONDUCTING THEIR UNESCO BUSINESS, AND PROBABLY REPRESENTS A REVISED FIGURE FOR WHAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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DRK CONSIDERS SUITABLE FOR PROVIDING ITS PARIS TRADE CENTER WITH LOGISTIC AND COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT.)

3. HIRAOKA ALSO LEARNED THAT THE DRK HAD FURTHER EMBARRASSED" THE SECRETARIAT BY ASKING PERMISSION TO ERECT A LARGE ANTENNA ON THE ROOF OF THE UNESCO ANNEX WHICH HOUSES THE PERMANENT DELEGATIONS. PURPOSE IS TO

PROVIDE FOR DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA. (COMMENT: THIS INITIATIVE MIGHT BE INTERPRETED AS DRK DESIRE TO ALLEVIATE ITS DEPENDENCE ON USSR AND PRC COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS. THE DRK'S PARIS TRADE CENTER HAS NO DIPLOMATIC STATUS, AND CONSEQUENTLY NO POSSIBILITY FOR INSTALLING SOPHISTICATED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SENDING AND RECEIVING DIPLOMATIC POUCHES.)

- 4. FINALLY, UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND DRK'S PERMDEL TO UNESCO APPEAR TO BE CONTINUING AT ARMS LENGTH. THE FRENCH PERMREP TO UNESCO, AMBASSADOR VALERY, FOR EXAMPLE, RECENTLY HAS REFUSED FOR AT LEAST THE SECOND TIME, TO RECEIVE A COURTESY CALL FROM THE DRK'S PERMREP. (COMMENT: ONE SHOULD NOTE THAT ACCORDING TO FRENCH PROTOCOL, FRENCH OFFICIALS ACCREDITED TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS MAY RECEIVE DRK COLLEAGUES, ALTHOUGH FRANCE DOES NOT MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE DRK.)
- 5. PERMDEL WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR AND REPORT ON DRK ACTIVITIES IN UNESCO.

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